

Newport Town Council  
Meeting minutes  
January 16, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting was in compliance with the Delaware Open Meetings Act.

Attendance: Mayor Michael Spencer, Commissioner Kathy Joseph, Commissioner John Joswick, Commissioner Michele MacDonald, Town Manager Wendy King, Police Chief Michael Capriglione, Solicitor Stephen Robinson. Commissioner Tim Chatburn is to be sworn in this evening.

Commissioner Joseph made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 19, 2013, meeting. Commissioner Joswick seconded.

Mayor Spencer made a motion to appoint resident Tim Chatburn to council to fill the vacancy from Commissioner Mary Harrington's resignation. Commissioner Joseph seconded. Voice vote – all ayes. Mayor Spencer proceeded to administer the Oath of Office to Commissioner Chatburn. It was clarified that while Mary Harrington's seat has a little less than 15 months left, Commissioner Chatburn will have to run in April per the charter.

There was no correspondence. Bill Lower from Harvey Hanna wished council a happy new year.

Town Manager King presented her report that detailed the stormwater requirements that the town will have to be accountable for in the coming months. Meetings are being held with the affected municipalities, New Castle County and state agencies to iron out all the details. Verizon Wireless is onsite to build their shed that will house their electrical equipment for their space on the monopole. Town Manager King notified council of the deposits going into the employees' health savings accounts and how it was to be the same amount for each of the employees with single coverage and the same amount for family coverage. There was concern and discussion regarding the amount the town could and should pay going forward. There is time to figure this out as the year progresses.

Police Chief Capriglione presented his monthly and yearly statistics. He also presented the Alderman's Report.

The Maintenance Report was presented with no questions.

Solicitor Robinson believed he had found a candidate for the alderman's position, but upon further review, the court's schedule would not allow for this candidate to pursue an appointment. He asked for a list of business license violators. It was decided that the solicitor and town manager would sit down with both of the current aldermen to advise of the fact that we are posting the positions in accordance with the recent passing of our ordinance to place a time limit on appointments.

Commissioner Joseph mentioned a minibike on Walnut Street.

Commissioner MacDonald asked about a street light that was down on 141.

Mayor Spencer was mostly concerned with the revenue deficit in 2013 and wanted to be sure that every revenue opportunity was being utilized, as in seeing to it that businesses, especially out of town contractors, were licensed to do work in town.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.